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دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة
DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



المجلس العالمي
WORLD MAJLIS

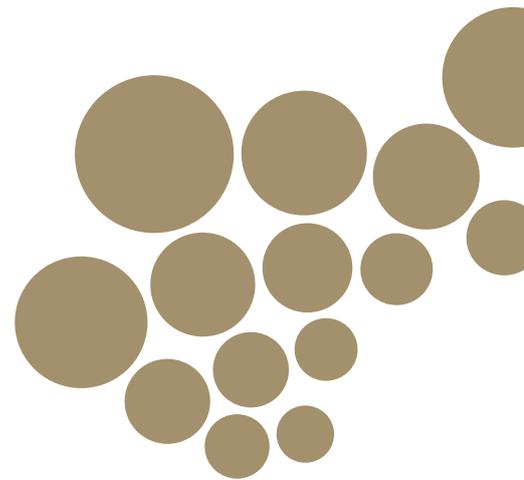
المجلس العالمي WORLD MAJLIS

CITIES, FUTURES, CHANGE

WORLD EXPOS AS EXPERIMENTS IN MEGA-CHANGE



World Expo Museum
Shanghai
14 December 2018



Cities, Futures, Change World Expos as experiments in mega-change

How can Expos shape the future of urban living and influence the long-term development of host cities and beyond?

Behind every Expo has been a vision for change, a vision of a new life for the host city, and a new place within the world order for the host country. This has been the case for almost two centuries, since the first Great Exhibition took place in London in 1851.

We can indeed look at Expos as one of the greatest cultural and urban experiments in history, providing over 170 years of cumulative experience in executing change at the city level, and realigning a city's aspirations, infrastructure and people with a new future. But how successful have we been? What have we learnt in that time? And do we now have the blue print for a Better City, a Better Life, or a roadmap to Create the Future?

Most Expos are rightly assessed, in the short term, by metrics such as visitor numbers, hotel occupancy rates or country participation. But what are the long term goals? What was the unwritten vision of those that triggered that giant first step towards city scale transformation?





World Expos provide great insights into the vision and challenges of transforming cities:

- What can they teach us about large-scale city transformations?
- Can these lessons be applied to cities of the future, irrespectively of whether or not they are hosting or have hosted a mega-event?
- What does this mean for proto-cities; the towns of today that will be the cities of tomorrow?

World Expos bring about change that manifests itself in different ways and at different times:

- How do cities adapt to the changes that they will inevitably need to make?
- Is change evolving over time, or as a singular transition?
- What are some of the least expected, yet extraordinary transformations brought about by a World Expo?
- How are we taking into account the expectations of future generations?

Each Expos affects a city in all of its aspects: infrastructure, community, economy, culture, to name a few:

- What is the relationship between infrastructure, community and commerce, and who should take the lead?
- If we look to the future, what can we anticipate about the communities and priorities we may create in the next 50 years?
- What are going to be some of the most impactful contribution of World Expo at the time of the Fourth Industrial Revolution?